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Based on characters and concepts created by Glen Larson for the television series Battlestar Galactica.™*

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

TM*

BATTLE FOR THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT!

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There are those who believe life here began out there, far across the universe, with tribes of humans who may have been the forefathers of the Egyptians. Or the Toltecs. Or the Mayans. Some believe there may yet be brothers of man who even now fight to survive somewhere beyond the heavens!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: BATTLESTAR GALACTICA™

Based on the television series Battlestar Galactica™ * written and created by Glen Larson.

COMMANDER ADAMA'S LOG, 143-59-06: FOLLOWING HEAD BIOLOGIST'S ENOCH'S ABORTIVE FOOD GATHERING EXPEDITION TO THE JUNGLE-SHROUDED WORLD BELOW, FAMINE STILL THREATENS THE GALACTICA... AND CHAOS REIGNS ON BOARD! DR. ENOCH, WHO WAS IN HIS LAB STUDYING SPECIMENS OF THE PLANET'S PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE, IS MISSING... AND AN APE-LIKE CREATURE FROM THE JUNGLE-WORLD HAS MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARED ON THE GALACTICA, STOLEN A VIPER AND SHOT DOWN A TRAINING PATROL MADE UP OF CASSIOPEA, SAPPHIRE AND MY DAUGHTER ATHENA! APOLLO, MY SON, HAS FOLLOWED THEM TO THE PLANET, BUT STELLAR INTERFERENCE PREVENTS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN US. THE FATE OF THE PATROL REMAINS UNKNOWN...

STEVEN GRANT & WALTER SIMONSON WRITER/CO-PLOTS/PENCILLER
SAL BUSCEMA -- LAYOUTS
KLAUS JANSON -- INKER
RICK PARKER -- LETTERS
DON WARREN -- COLORIST
LOUISE JONES -- EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER -- CHIEF
WITH THANKS TO THESE: MR. BROOM, DUFFY, AND SOME GUY NAMED MANTLO!

FORBIDDEN FRUIT!

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WHO...WHAT *ARE* YOU? WH-WHAT CAN A BRUTE LIKE YOU *WANT* WITH US?

SO, *ATHENA*... YOU STILL THINK I AM MERELY SOME *ANIMAL*-- EVEN THOUGH I *SHOT* YOU OUT OF THE SKIES!

I AM *MORE* THAN HUMAN! THE FRUIT OF THIS WORLD HAS MADE ME *MASTER* OF THE STARS!

EAT OF THE FRUIT, ATHENA ... GROW *BEAUTIFUL*... *JOIN* ME!

STAY *AWAY* FROM ME, YOU... YOU... *MONSTER!*

MY *BROTHER*, APOLLO, WILL COME FOR US! THE GALACTICA WILL SEND *SEARCH PARTIES!* WE'LL NEVER GIVE IN TO YOU!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY!

THE DAY WILL BE *WARM* SOON, THE SMELL OF THE RIPENED FRUIT WILL OVERPOWER YOU, AND YOU *WILL* EAT OF IT-- WHETHER YOU WISH TO OR *NOT!*

SOON YOU--AND THE REST OF THE HUMAN RACE-- WILL RECOGNIZE *ME* AS YOUR *DELIVERER* AND CALL ME *LORD*...

... AND THERE IS *NOTHING* YOUR PRECIOUS APOLLO CAN DO TO PREVENT IT!

SUDDENLY...

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT!

LOOK! IT'S *APOLLO!*

HAH! I *KNEW* HE'D TRACK US HERE!

MY BROTHER'S TOO GOOD A *FLIGHT LEADER* TO LET HIMSELF LOSE HIS ENTIRE PATROL!

HE'S ALSO COMPLETELY *UNARMED*, ATHENA!

THAT *APE-THING* WILL TEAR HIM APART!

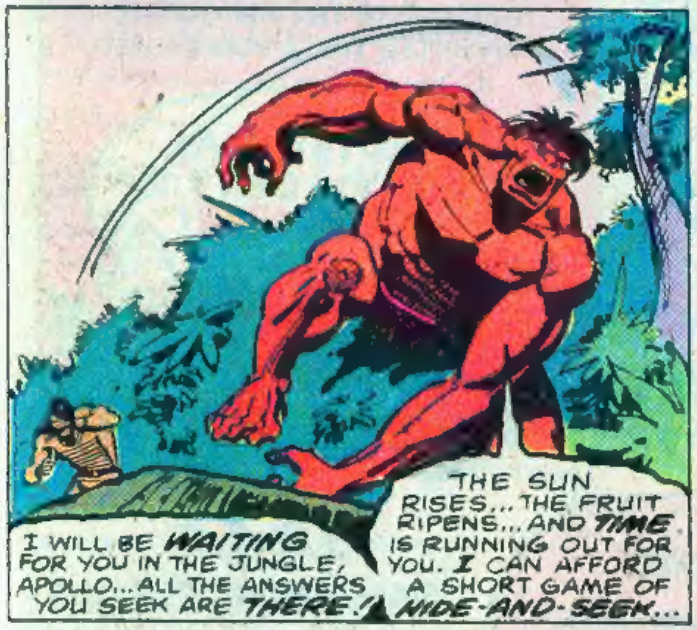
GRRROAAR!

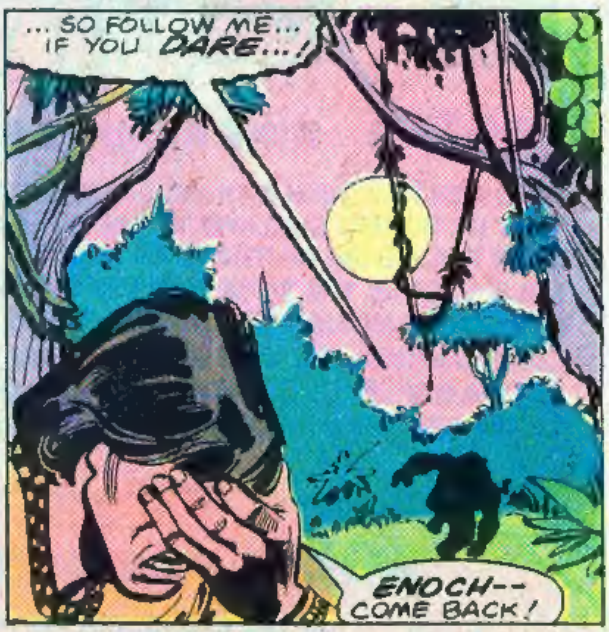
YOU ARE A... FOOL!
BY TRYING TO SAVE THE WOMEN -- YOU HAVE HANDED YOURSELF OVER TO ME!
APOLLO! IT'S RIGHT! GET AWAY BEFORE IT KILLS YOU!
DON'T DISTRACT HIM, ATHENA! HE'S HAVING TROUBLE AVOIDING THOSE MASSIVE ARMS AS IT IS!
DON'T WORRY, CASSIOPEA! OUR FURRY FRIEND IS MORE BLUSTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE...!
WHY, I DON'T THINK HE COULD FLY A VIPER IF HE WANTED TO!
YOU LIE! I FLEW THAT VIPER -- AS WELL AS I EVER COULD. I FEEL YOUNG NOW... STRONGER THAN YOU...
IS THAT YOUR PLAN, CAPTAIN?
ARE YOU TRYING TO ANGER THAT MONSTER INTO KILLING US ALL!
HE DOESN'T WANT ANY OF US DEAD, SAPHIRE! HE NEEDS US ALIVE... IF WE ARE TO BECOME LIKE HIM!
I THINK I KNOW WHO YOU ARE -- GIVE UP... LET US TRY TO CURE YOU!
WHOOM!
YOU MAY HAVE DISCOVERED MY SECRET... THOUGH IT WILL DO YOU LITTLE GOOD!
THIS IS THE FORM I HAVE CHOSEN, APOLLO! STRONG, HEALTHY, QUICK... NOT WEAK AND OLD!
AND I HAVE FRIENDS NOW... FRIENDS WHO CAN DEAL WITH YOU...

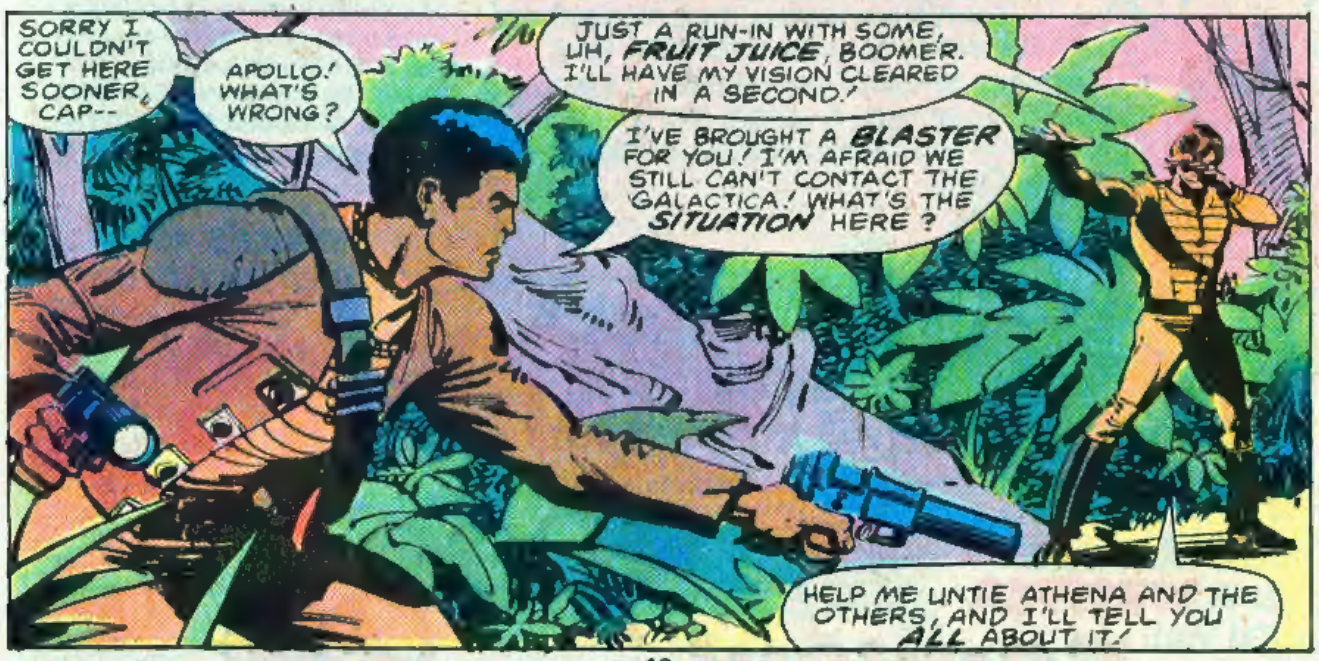
SUDDENLY, THE MAN-APE LETS OUT A BLOOD-FREEZING CRY--
-- SUMMONING FROM THE JUNGLE, APE AFTER APE...UNTIL MORE THAN A DOZEN OF THE CREATURES SURROUND THE HELPLESS APOLLO.
THEN, ABRUPTLY, THEY STOP AND STARE AT THE SKY-- AND FEAR WELLS UP INTO THEIR SIMIAN EYES...
FOR OVERHEAD ROARS A COLONIAL VIPER-- AND FROM THE VIPER COMES A BROADCAST VOICE...
HANG IN THERE, APOLLO. HELP IS ON THE WAY!
ONLY BOOMER IS IN THAT SHIP-- BUT THE MERE SYGHT OF IT IS ENOUGH TO DRIVE YOUR "FRIENDS" AWAY!
FACE IT, YOUR ONLY HOPE LIES IN LETTING US CURE YOU!
NO! YOUR RACE SHALL BE CURED... OF ITS PITIFUL HUMANITY!
THE FRUIT ALREADY LIES WAITING ON THE GALACTICA AND, IN TIME, OTHERS WILL STUMBLE UPON ITS SECRET!
BIND HIM, MY BROTHERS, AS THE WOMEN ARE BOUND... UNTIL HE BECOMES ONE OF US!
BUT THE APES HESITATE, STUDYING THE LANDING VIPER...THEN THE FIGURE COMMANDING THEM... THEN THE VIPER.
SUDDENLY FEAR GRIPS THEM... AND THEY FLEE, GIBBERING, INTO THE PROTECTIVE JUNGLE...
YOUR FRIENDS ARE DESERTING YOU, MONSTER...
OR SHOULD I SAY-- DOCTOR ENOCH?
E-ENOCH?! B-BUT...

HE LEFT A TRAIL OF CLUES, ATHENA! FIRST, THIS APE APPEARS FROM ENOCH'S LAB, WHILE ENOCH VANISHES...
THEN THE APE FLIES A VIPER-- USING ENOCH'S DISTINCTIVE PILOTING STYLE!

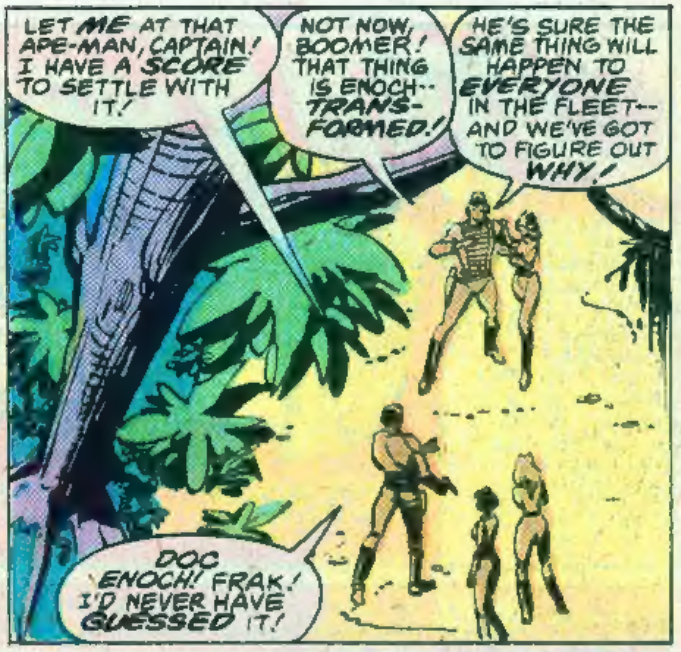
WHAT CHANGED YOU, ENOCH? WHAT...
ARGH!
HA! HA! HA! YOU SEE EVEN THE UNRIPE FRUIT HAS ITS USES!


I WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE JUNGLE, APOLLO... ALL THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK ARE THERE!
THE SUN RISES... THE FRUIT RIPENS... AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR YOU. I CAN AFFORD A SHORT GAME OF HIDE-AND-SEEK...

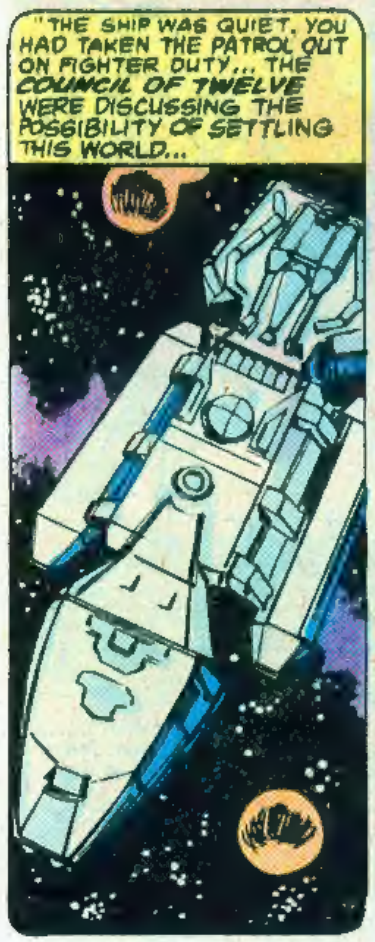

... SO FOLLOW ME... IF YOU DARE...!
ENOCH-- COME BACK!


SORRY I COULDN'T GET HERE SOONER, CAP--
APOLLO! WHAT'S WRONG?
JUST A RUN-IN WITH SOME, UH, FRUIT JUICE, BOOMER. I'LL HAVE MY VISION CLEARED IN A SECOND!
I'VE BROUGHT A BLASTER FOR YOU! I'M AFRAID WE STILL CAN'T CONTACT THE GALACTICA! WHAT'S THE SITUATION HERE?
HELP ME UNTIE ATHENA AND THE OTHERS, AND I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
BIG BROTHER-- YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HAPPY WE WERE TO SEE YOU!
PERSONALLY, ATHENA, I WAS HAPPIER TO SEE BOOMER-- AND THE WEAPONS!


LET ME AT THAT APE-MAN, CAPTAIN! I HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH IT!
NOT NOW, BOOMER! THAT THING IS ENOCH-- TRANS-FORMED!
HE'S SURE THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN TO EVERYONE IN THE FLEET-- AND WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT WHY!
DOC ENOCH! FRAK! I'D NEVER HAVE GUESSED IT!

I WAS THE FIRST PERSON ON THE GALACTICA TO SEE THE MAN-APE...


"THE SHIP WAS QUIET. YOU HAD TAKEN THE PATROL OUT ON FIGHTER DUTY... THE COUNCIL OF TWELVE WERE DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTLING THIS WORLD...

"I HAD JUST GOTTEN OFF MY WORK-SHIFT -- AND DECIDED TO TAKE THE SHORTCUT THROUGH THE LAB AREA TO MY QUARTERS...
"THAT'S WHEN I RAN INTO THAT THING!"

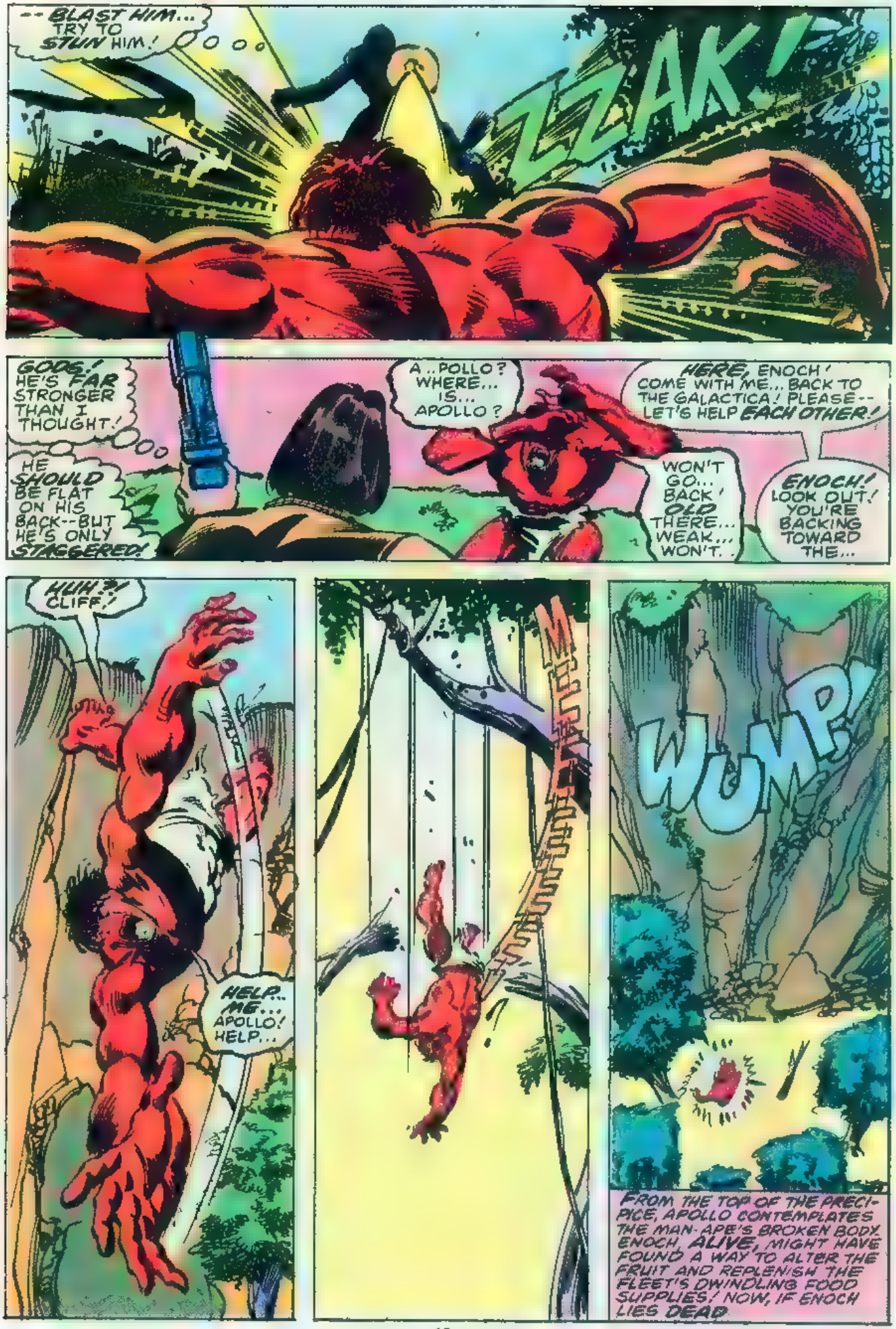
"IT WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, IF OUR PAL, JOLLY HADN'T INTERFERED! INSTEAD, IT RAN. WE THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A DUMB BRUTE UNTIL WE CHASED IT TO THE VIPER BAY...
...WHERE IT CRAWLED INTO A VIPER!

"IT NEARLY KILLED US BOTH WHEN IT TOOK OFF IN THE VIPER-- WITHOUT CLOSING THE AIRLOCKS! JOLLY AND I SHUT THE EMERGENCY LOCKS SECONDS BEFORE WE WERE SUCKED OUT INTO SPACE!
"WE COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW AN APE COULD FLY A VIPER-- BUT IF IT'S ENOCH, THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING! IN HIS HEYDAY, HE WAS ONE OF THE BEST PILOTS IN THE COLONIES!"
THAT'S WHERE OUR TRAINING PATROL CAME IN, BOOMER!
"APOLLO HAD JUST FLOWN AWAY, TO SEE IF WE COULD COUNTER HIS SNEAK ATTACK! UNFORTUNATELY WE WEREN'T ARMED--
"--AND COMPUTER SIMULATIONS DIDN'T HELP AGAINST WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!
"WE THOUGHT THE APPROACHING VIPER WAS APOLLO'S AT FIRST, 'TIL IT SHOT US DOWN IN RAPID SUCCESSION.'
"WE FELT WE'D BEEN LUCKY TO GET TO THE PLANET'S SURFACE INTACT--
--UNTIL WE DISCOVERED THAT WAS WHAT ENOCH WANTED.'
"AT ENOCH'S COMMAND, THOSE APES ATTACKED US! WE WERE... HELPLESS...
"THEY DIDN'T ACTUALLY HURT US -- JUST BROUGHT US HERE AND BOUND US. THAT THING -- ENOCH -- ACTED LIKE HE WAS WAITING FOR SOMETHING, APOLLO!"

"I KNOW, ATHENA, I WAS WATCHING THE WHOLE THING-- BUT WHEN YOU PROVOKED ENOCH, I HAD TO REVEAL MYSELF! HE WAS WAITING, ALL RIGHT...
"...WAITING FOR YOU TO BECOME APES, TOO!"
AND HE GAVE US SOME CLUES ABOUT WHAT CAUSES THE CHANGE! LET'S SEE...HE WANTED YOU TO EAT THE FRUIT...
GODS OF KOBOL! THE FRUIT! WE COLLECTED A BUNCH OF IT WHEN WE WERE HERE EARLIER.
THE SAMPLE THAT ENOCH HELD OUT TO STUDY MUST HAVE RIPENED-- HE ATE IT--AND IT TRIGGERED HIS TRANSFORMATION!
WELL, WE LOCKED THE REMAINDER OF IT IN AN AIR-TIGHT REFRIGERATOR! IT CAN'T DO ANY HARM AS LONG AS IT STAYS THERE!
UH... BAD NEWS, APOLLO! THE REFRIGERATOR WAS WRECKED-- AND YOUR FATHER WAS THERE WHEN IT HAPPENED!
WHAT?! YOU FOUR! BACK TO THE SHIP.. WARN THEM OF THE DANGER! I'LL GO AFTER ENOCH!
APOLLO! WE HAVE NO IDEA WHEN THE FRUIT ON ALL THESE TREES WILL RIPEN!
BOOMER'S RIGHT! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO STAY HERE!
NO! IT'S COOL YET... THE FRUIT WON'T RIPEN FOR A WHILE... AND I CAN'T ABANDON ENOCH WITHOUT ANOTHER TRY!
BUT... WHY YOU?
I KNOW THE TERRAIN-- AND THIS WILL BE A GREAT CHANCE TO USE MY GYMNASTIC TRAINING!
NOW GET TO THE GALACTICA-- FAST!
BE CAREFUL! APOLLO?!
OW!
ON THE OTHER HAND, THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO TEAR MY ARMS FROM THEIR SOCKETS!

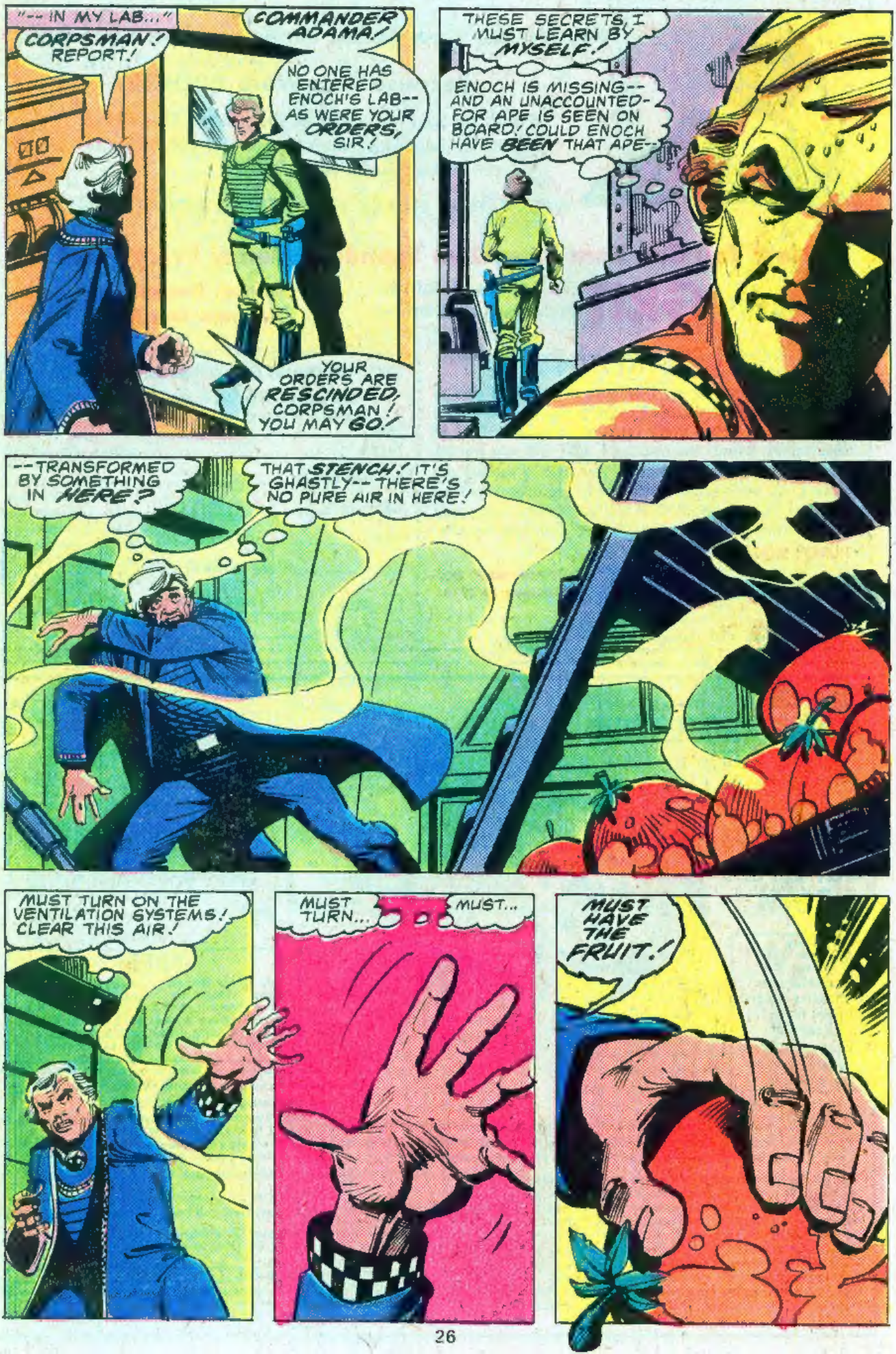
UNFORTUNATELY, SWINGING FROM BRANCH TO BRANCH IS THE BEST WAY TO TRAVEL IN THIS JUNGLE!
TOO BAD STARBUCK ISN'T HERE! HE'D GET A REAL KICK OUT OF THIS!
I STILL WISH WE HADN'T LEFT HIM BACK ON SCAVENGE WORLD#...
UH-OH! THERE'S ENOCH WALKING NEAR THAT CLIFF! THIS'LL BE MY LAST CHANCE TO CONVINCE HIM TO COME BACK!
*BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #13-LOUISE
I CAN'T JUST ABANDON HIM HERE! THE FLEET NEEDS HIS SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE! HE'S A GREAT BIOLOGIST... AND GIVEN TIME, I KNOW HE COULD FIND A WAY TO MAKE THE FRUIT SAFE...
AND I DON'T BELIEVE HE WANTS TO STAY AN APE... NOT REALLY!
ENOCH!
APOLLO! I... KILL... YOU...
NO! HE CAN BARELY SPEAK--HIS MIND MUST BE GOING! AS THE SUN RISES, HE'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE APE-LIKE!
I'M HERE TO HELP YOU, ENOCH! DON'T MAKE ME HURT YOU! UNDERSTAND?

GRRR YEARR!
BLAST IT! HE'S COMPLETELY BEYOND REASONING WITH...
AS HE SEES IT, ENOCH HAS TWO CHOICES! HE CAN ATTACK ME... OR FLEE FROM ME OVER THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF. AND I KNOW WHAT HE'LL CHOOSE.
HE'S LEFT ME NO CHOICE BUT TO--


-- BLAST HIM... TRY TO STUN HIM!
ZZZAK!
GODS! HE'S FAR STRONGER THAN I THOUGHT!
HE SHOULD BE FLAT ON HIS BACK--BUT HE'S ONLY STAGGERED!
A..POLLO? WHERE... IS... APOLLO?
HERE, ENOCH! COME WITH ME... BACK TO THE GALACTICA! PLEASE-- LET'S HELP EACH OTHER!
WON'T GO... BACK! OLD THERE... WEAK... WON'T..
ENOCH! LOOK OUT! YOU'RE BACKING TOWARD THE...
HUH?! CLIFF!
HELP... ME... APOLLO! HELP...
MEEE

WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GALACTICA?
ON THE SHIP'S BRIDGE, COMMANDER ADAMA WORRIES... ABOUT THE FAMINE TO COME... HIS MISSING CHILDREN...
...AND SOMETHING ELSE..OF OVERWHELMING IMPORTANCE...
I CAN'T GET OVER THE SMELL THAT PERMEATED ENOCH'S LAB AFTER THAT APE DEMOLISHED IT, TIGH*..
*LAST ISSUE--LOUISE.
THE ODOR WAS DISGUSTING... BUT ENTICING, TOO.
I'M CONVINCED IT'S...RELATED...TO ENOCH'S DISAPPEARANCE!
TAKE OVER THE BRIDGE, TIGH, OLD FRIEND! I'M GOING TO... INVESTIGATE!
RIGHT, COMMANDER!
AND FROM THE APPROACHING VIPER
GALACTICA! THIS IS BOOMER! THE FRUIT IN ENOCH'S LAB MUST BE DESTROYED IMMEDIATELY! DO YOU READ ME?
BOOMER? TIGH SPEAKING! I HOPE THIS MESSAGE IS LESS GARBLED THAN YOURS WAS! WE BARELY MANAGED TO PICK OUT YOUR NAME!
YOU'D BETTER DOCK WITH US, AND THEN TELL US WHAT THE PROBLEM IS!
MINUTES LATER, AFTER THE VIPER HAS DOCKED..
TIGH? WHERE'S COMMANDER ADAMA?
HE'S NOT ON THE BRIDGE RIGHT NOW! HE'S CHECKING OUT SOME STRANGE SMELL--
--IN ENOCH'S LAB!
A SMELL?! IN.
OH, NO! FATHER!
PUT ON YOUR GAS MASK, ATHENA!
AND WAIT FOR US!

WHILE BACK ON THE JUNGLE WORLD...
BLAST IT! EVEN ENOCH'S APE FORM COULDN'T SURVIVE A FALL LIKE THAT!
A. POLLO.
WHA--?! ENOCH! YOU'RE ALIVE!
DYING... BODY SMASHED..
MIND COMING BACK REALIZE WHAT I'VE DONE! D.DN T MEAN TO... I'M SORRY, BOY...
SHHHH... YOU'LL BE ALL R GHT, ENOCH! ONCE I GET YOU BACK TO THE SHIP WE'LL CURE YOU!
DEATH'... IS CURE, BOY! ONLY CURE!
FUTURE OF FLEET... IS IN YOUR HANDS! LET ME TELL YOU... WHAT HAPPENED TO ME.
"REMEMBER .WE WERE HERE TO GATHER FRUIT TO FEED FLEET
"DISCOVERED REMAINS OF EXPEDITION FROM CAPRICA .AND HAD RUN-IN WITH APES .TOOK ONE BACK! CURIOUS BECAUSE LIFE-FORM LIKE THAT COULDN'T EVOLVE HERE!
"STUDIES SHOWED APE WAS HUMAN... WITH SINGLE PROTEIN ADDED TO ITS GENETIC STRUCTURE..
PROTEIN COMES ..FROM FRUIT...
"WASN'T ACCIDENT THAT I ATE FRUIT BOY
"FRUIT GIVES OFF ODOR .. WHEN RIPE... OBSESSING... IRRESISTABLE...
"HAD TO EAT FRUIT COULD THINK OF NOTHING ELSE...
"TOO LATE FOR ME. PROTEIN BONDED TO MY CELLS...
"... AND I CHANGED...
"...AS OUR EARLIER EXPEDITION CHANGED AS OUR PEOPLE WILL CHANGE-- IF THEY SURRENDER TO THE FRUIT--


"--IN MY LAB..."
CORPSMAN! REPORT!
COMMANDER ADAMA!
NO ONE HAS ENTERED ENOCH'S LAB-- AS WERE YOUR ORDERS, SIR!
YOUR ORDERS ARE RESCINDED, CORPSMAN! YOU MAY GO!
THESE SECRETS, I MUST LEARN BY MYSELF!
ENOCH IS MISSING-- AND AN UNACCOUNTED-FOR APE IS SEEN ON BOARD! COULD ENOCH HAVE BEEN THAT APE--
--TRANSFORMED BY SOMETHING IN HERE?
THAT STENCH! IT'S GHASTLY-- THERE'S NO PURE AIR IN HERE!
MUST TURN ON THE VENTILATION SYSTEMS! CLEAR THIS AIR!
MUST TURN...
MUST...
MUST HAVE THE FRUIT!

YES... THE FRUIT! YES.!
NO.! THIS GOT ENOCH.! I WON'T SUCCUMB!
I WON'T BE CONTROLLED BY IT.! I WON'T!
I... I...
MUST EAT!
PEE-OOOM!
FATHER.! THANK THE GODS WE GOT HERE IN TIME!
STEP ASIDE-- AND WE'LL DESTROY THE REST OF IT.!
ATHENA.! BOOMER.! WHERE--?
NO! PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPONS! THAT'S AN ORDER.!
KOOM!
SORRY, COMMANDER-- WE MUST DISOBEY.!
GET THAT FRUIT, ATHENA! ALL OF IT.!
NOOooo...
FATHER.!
HE JUST COLLAPSED FROM THE STRAIN, ATHENA. HE'LL BE OKAY...
...I HOPE APOLLO IS THAT LUCKY.!

BUT LUCKY IS THE LAST THING APOLLO FEELS AS HE CRADLES THE DYING ENOCH IN HIS ARMS...
WHEN I ATE... THE FRUIT... I CHANGED... GAINED ENERGY... SIZE... BUT ALSO... PRIDE... FEAR... MADNESS...
...STILL I COULD FLY VIPERS AGAIN... LIKE I WANTED TO!
FELT LIKE I OWNED THE STARS! SOME JOKE, EH? IN THE END... CHANGE ROBBED ME OF POWER TO FLY VIPERS...
...COULDN'T THINK... COULDN'T DO ANYTHING...
...EXCEPT... BE ANIMAL...
FORGET FRUIT, APOLLO! SOME THINGS... WORSE... THAN... STARVATION...
COUNCIL OF TWELVE... TALKING ABOUT SETTLING THIS WORLD! STOP THEM, APOLLO! IF MANKIND TAKES THIS PLANET... THEY LOSE THE STARS...
PROMISE ME... YOU WON'T LET THEM LOSE... THE STARS...
I PROMISE, ENOCH!
I PROMISE!
THE SPECTACULAR SAGA YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
THE RETURN OF--
STARBUCK!
NEXT ISSUE! BE THERE!

BATTLESTAR BULLETINS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

LOUISE JONES
EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Marvel,

So the Scavenge World series has finally ended. The Cylons have been decisively beaten, Commander Adama is finally out of the Memory Machine (did he ever find that clue he was searching for?), and the fleet is heading out of the void, at last. If *that* isn't a wrap-up, I don't know what is. You managed to wipe out every loose plotline in the series and give yourselves a clean slate to work with in a mere three issues. Good work.

Roger McKenzie outdid himself with "Collision Course!" Several little touches made the story work: Starbuck's determination to get into the battle, Apollo's ingenuity in turning the tables on the Cylons, the insane hunger for spare parts of the Scavenge World minions, the almost-human eagerness and regret on the part of the Cylons. BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #13 had one packed story. But what about Starbuck? Surely you're not going to leave him in Euraylе's grip? And why doesn't her mind-control power work on him? I hope you clear up these points in the near future.

As far as the art goes, I think there's no better artist in comics than Walt Simonson. He has a distinctive style and his mastery allows him to shift from subtle, serious emotional scenes to incredibly humorous material (like the various characters on Scavenge World) to violent, dramatic battle scenes (of which this issue had plenty), with great smoothness. I've been following his work since his early fantasy stories at Gold Key Comics, and I've yet to see a type of story he can't handle. He just keeps getting better and better.

Now, about the future of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA: as the Cylons and Baltar and Lucifer and Sire Uri seem to be villains of the past, the Galactica is moving into a fairly open future. Up until now, the series has consisted of one fight against the Cylons after another, with a couple of vignettes thrown in, but the series hasn't really taken advantage of the space background. The Galactica should be running into a lot more than battle-hungry aliens. There are an infinite number of mysteries in space, and I'd like to see the Galactica tackle a few of them.

Also, now that the remnants of humanity have the opportunity to breathe easily for a while, how about some keen focus on the personalities of the heroes — Apollo, Adama, Starbuck, Athena, Boomer, Tigh, Boxey, Cassiopea, Master Shadrack? And what of other members of the fleet? You have hundreds of people there; surely some of them must have interesting stories of their own. You don't *have* to feature the stars of the series in prominent roles in *every* issue.

Anyway, keep up the good work. BATTLESTAR GALACTICA is one of Marvel's best-produced and most exciting series.

Dominic Dewlay
630 Hampton Rd.
Richmond, CA 94803

As you've seen, Dominic, we've already done stories that parallel some of your suggestions. For instance, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #14 spotlighted Boxey while Boomer had the majoy role in #15. This issue and last feature the story of Dr. Enoch, a previously unheard-of member of the Battlestar crew, and an upcoming issue will feature Athena in a prominent role. Stick with us — you ain't seen nothing yet.

Dear Al, Roger and Walt,

Have you gone crazy?! You can't make Starbuck a general! Do you realize what you are doing? Apollo might not like this, and neither will Adama, for it gives Starbuck a higher rank than either of them. It better become *Lieutenant* Starbuck again, and soon.

Todd N. Smutz
6910 Evanston Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442

Actually, Todd, Starbuck didn't become a general, at least as far as the Galactica was concerned. His generalship meant nothing away from Scavenge World, and it only had meaning there because Euraylе allowed it to. So if and when Starbuck ever manages to get away from Scavenge World and rejoin the fleet, he'll revert to his former rank. Okay?

Dear People,

One thing I expected from BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #13 is — BAD ART! Well, it wasn't all that bad. As a matter of fact, I'm getting used to it. Wait, your art is slowly improving, but you still have major problems in that area. And even if other readers like the art, the script was not very good. It was rushed. By the looks of this comic, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA could come out every 20 days without a drop in quality. The story was actually not bad, but you crammed into one issue what could have gone into three. Starbuck's escape from Scavenge World could have stood as a single issue by itself, but here it was a virtual throwaway. If you think your story is so bad that you want to get rid of it as quickly as possible, why did you ever begin it? Last issue was excellent, but now that Adama's back, you're going straight downhill. I'm counting on next issue to be a winner. Otherwise, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA could just as well go down the drain.

Jorge Cordova
10421 SW 20 St.
Miami, FL 33165

Starbuck is still on Scavenge World, Jorge, but he won't be for long. BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #19 and 20 will spotlight his spectacular escape. Be there!

Dear McKenzie/Simonson/Jones:

I suppose you guys have seen the latest episode of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA on ABC... I refer, of course, to GALACTICA 1980.

Y'know, if Dr. Zee is a mutant, why couldn't there be other mutants with physical prowess aboard the Galactica?... I've got it! The gifted youngsters, these children of the atom, could be gathered under the tutelage of the aforementioned genius to form... THE Z-MEN!

No?

Rick S. Jones
Rt. 1
Argos, IN 46501

Well...

Dear Sirs,

You're doing a terrific job on BATTLESTAR, I especially liked issue #15. In fact, the job you're doing is so great that I almost hate to tell you about the big no-prize you owe me.

In #15, you have Boomer finding Ilya, Adama's wife, on board a derelict alive. But in #6, Apollo says that Adama found Ilya dead. Get my drift?

Jeff Baylor
126 Black Oak Rd.
Lebanon, PA 17042

Sorry, Jeff. Adama was certain that his wife was killed in the bombardment of Caprica by the Cylons... but he was WRONG... as all of us didcovered in reading issue #15.

Dear Marvel,

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #15 was the best issue of GALACTICA to date, and #14 was my second favorite. The art was excellent and the story was the best! It's about time that Boomer starred in his own issue. Boomer's anger was appropriate and the death of Adama's wife was gripping. Keep up the great work and BRING BACK STARBUCK!

Rocco Nigro
368 Hudson Ave.
Albany, NY

No sooner said than done, Rocco. See the next two issues for further details.